

--Cross-Reference to Related Applications

C₁ This Application is filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and claims priority to WO/ 98/4644, filed April 15, 1998, which claims priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 97808/1997, 151434/1997, 217897/1997, and 224803/1997, 332241/1997.--

Please amend the title of the specification, deleting the words, "NOVEL PROTEIN AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE PROTEIN" and inserting therefore,

C₂ --AN OCIF-BINDING MOLECULE (OBM), NUCLEIC ACID ENCODING, AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME--

Please replace the abstract as originally filed with the following abstract.

--AN OCIF-BINDING MOLECULE AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

Abstract

C₃ Novel proteins and polypeptides binding to osetoclastogenesis inhibitory factor (OCIF) (OCIF-binding molecules, OBMs) and nucleic acids encoding these proteins and polypeptides are provided. A process for producing these proteins, polypeptides, and nucleic acids molecules by genetic engineering is provided. Medicinal compounds are provided which comprise proteins and nucleic acids according to the invention, as well as proteins which bind to OBM, including anti-OBM antibodies. These compounds may be used for the treatment of bone disease.--